

Southern Alliance for Clean Energy
Action Fund



2008 Clean Energy & Global Warming Scorecard

2nd Session, 110th Congress



Southern Alliance for Clean Energy Action Fund

(SACE Action Fund) is the political arm of the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy. SACE Action Fund is a non-partisan, non-profit (c4) organization striving to make global warming solutions a top priority for our region's elected leaders to ensure clean, safe, and healthy communities throughout the Southeast.

As a legislative watchdog, SACE Action Fund works within our region's conservation community to identify and highlight important energy and global warming-related legislation and votes in Congress with significant policy implications that will impact our air, water, economy and public health. SACE Action Fund holds our federal delegation members accountable for their votes in an annual Clean Energy & Global Warming Scorecard.

SACE Action Fund also educates conservation-minded citizens to encourage their involvement in the political process by providing the tools and information they need to make informed choices about clean-energy candidates at election time.

2008 Clean Energy & Global Warming Scorecard

Our nation's growing dependence on fossil fuels as a primary energy source coupled with the real and growing threats of global warming require that our elected leaders embrace a clean energy future and develop complimentary policies. Clean energy policies should include reductions in global warming pollution, higher fuel economy standards, incentives for renewable energy production, standards for energy efficiency, and the expansion of renewable energy sources. Congress continued its work from the first session of the 110th Congress to address these critical issues with a series of votes that specifically addressed clean energy and/or global warming policies during the second session in 2008.

How to Votes are Scored

Each vote was selected for its importance in supporting or opposing clean energy and global warming policies. For each vote, a Representative or Senator had three possible actions including: **support** (represented by a ✓), **opposition** (represented by an ✕), **no recorded vote** due to an absence or decision not to cast a vote (represented by 'no vote').

7 Key House Votes

Tax Credits for Clean, Renewable Energy

Vote #1

Although the House of Representatives repeatedly passed legislation in 2007 to extend renewable energy tax credits, the Senate failed to muster the final vote needed to include the critical measure in the 2007 Energy Bill.¹ In 2008, the House made multiple attempts to extend the soon-to-expire tax credits to incentivize clean, renewable energy production. The first attempt, the Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation Tax Act of 2008 (H.R. 5351), would extend the Internal Revenue Code Section 45 credit for the production of electricity from renewable resources for three years, through 2011, paid for by amending certain tax provisions for the oil and gas industry. On February 27, the House approved the bill by a vote of 236 to 182 (House Roll Call vote #84). **YES** was the clean energy vote.

Vote #2

In the spring, the House Ways and Means Committee developed an economic stimulus bill, the Renewable Energy and Job Creation Act (HR 6049), designed to generate economic activity and create new jobs, which included provisions to extend renewable energy production and investment tax credits. The bill also included incentives for energy efficiency, renewable fuels and clean vehicles. On May 21, the House passed the bill by a vote of 263 to 160 (House Roll Call vote #344). **YES** was the clean energy vote. *[These tax credits were finally extended on October 3, as a small part of the \$700 billion dollar "Financial Bailout Bill," through a Motion to Concur on Sen. Amendments to HR 1424: Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (House Roll Call vote #681).]*

Energy Efficiency & Clean Energy

Vote #3

Inefficiently-designed buildings consume more energy, generate more global warming pollution and cost more to operate than energy-efficient spaces. As Congress considered the HOPE VI Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2007 (HR 2534) it required federally funded housing developments for low-income and elderly to meet modest efficiency standards. However, Rep. Capito (R-WV) offered an amendment to

¹ On December 13, 2007, the Senate fell just one vote short of the 60 votes needed to stop debate and vote on an energy bill that included an extension of renewable energy tax credits (Senate Roll Call Vote #425; 110th Congress, first session).

weaken the standards and remove certain green-building standards. On January 17, the House defeated the amendment by a vote of 169 to 240 (House Roll Call vote #16). **NO** was the clean energy vote.

Vote #4:

Speaker Pelosi spearheaded an initiative in the Fall of 2008 to enact comprehensive energy policy to save money for consumers, expand energy efficiency and renewable energy, create new “green jobs” and increase the domestic energy supply. Building on earlier efforts throughout the year, the Comprehensive America Energy Security & Consumer Protection Act (HR 6899) included an extension of crucial renewable energy tax credits; a Renewable Energy Standard (RES) of 15% by 2020; and royalty reform for oil and gas companies. However, during consideration of the bill, Rep. Peterson (R-PA) offered a motion to severely weaken the bill by deleting the RES, opening public lands and coastal waters to increased drilling and increasing federal subsidies oil shale development. The House defeated this motion on September 16 by a vote of 191 to 226 (House Roll Call vote #598). **NO** was the clean energy vote.

High Carbon Fuels

Vote #5

Despite historic and overwhelming public support for continued protection of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR), there have been repeated attempts by members of Congress to permit drilling in the refuge. While the House considered the 2009 budget resolution, Rep. Ryan (R-WI) offered a Motion to Instruct conferees that would have authorized drilling in environmentally sensitive and protected areas, such as ANWR, the Outer Continental Shelf and on public lands throughout the west. On May 14, the House rejected the motion by a vote of 185 to 229 (House Roll Call vote #321). **NO** was the clean energy vote.

Vote #6

Section 526 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 prevents the federal government from purchasing fuels that produce more global warming pollution than conventional petroleum, and it is an important measure in reducing our nation’s greenhouse gas emissions. However, there were attempts in 2008 to repeal Section 526 as Congress considered Defense authorization bills. On June 18, while Congress considered H.R. 6063 (the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act), a Motion to Recommit failed by a vote of 196 to 225 (House Roll Call vote #420). **NO** was the clean energy vote.

Vote #7

In the summer of 2008, concern over high gas prices led some members of Congress to call for increased oil exploration by issuing new oil and gas leases on federal lands in the Outer Continental Shelf. On July 17, the House considered a bill (HR 6515: Drill Responsibly in Leased Lands Act of 2008) to require that oil and gas companies use existing leases before taking out new leases. The vote was held under a suspension of the rules to cut debate short and required a two-thirds majority to pass. The bill did not receive support from two-thirds of the members and so failed by a vote of 244 to 173 (House Roll Call vote #511). **YES** was the clean energy vote.

8 Key Senate Votes

Tax Credits for Clean, Renewable Energy

Vote #1:

Although a broad coalition of businesses, investors and non-profits urged an extension of renewable energy tax credits as part of the 2007 Energy Bill, Congress failed to include that critical measure in December 2007. In the 110th Congress' second session, the Senate attempted to extend these soon-to-expire tax credits on multiple occasions. In February, Sen. Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) introduced an amendment (S.Amdt. 3983) to a housing bill (H.R. 5140) for tax credits that supported research, investments in solar and fuel cells and extended production tax credits for wind and other renewable energy sources. The Senate failed to pass the amendment on February 6 by a vote of 58 to 41 (Senate Roll Call vote #8) as a two-thirds majority was required to end debate and hold an 'up or down' vote. **YES** was the clean energy vote.

Vote #2:

Later that summer, Sen. Baucus (D-MT) introduced legislation, S. 3335 - Jobs, Energy, Families, and Disaster Relief Act of 2008, which included measures considered by the Senate before as well as new provisions for new clean energy technologies such as marine and hydrokinetic. On July 30, the motion failed in the Senate by a vote of 51 to 43 (Senate Roll Call vote #192) as a two-thirds majority was required. **YES** was the clean energy votes. *[These tax credits were finally extended on October 1, as a*

small part of the \$700 billion dollar "Financial Bailout Bill," through the Dodd Amdt. to H.R. 2095 (Federal Railroad Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (Senate Roll Call vote #210).]

Energy Efficiency & Clean Energy

Vote #3:

The sudden financial sector crash and subsequent volatility in stock markets led Congress to draft an emergency supplemental appropriations package (S. 3604) to support economic recovery for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008. This legislation would have included provisions to extend the oil shale moratorium in western states while investing in clean energy and energy efficiency, hybrids, home weatherization and public transport throughout the country. On September 26, the Senate rejected the legislation by a vote of 52 to 42 (Senate Roll Call vote #206) as a two-thirds majority was required. **YES** was the clean energy vote.

Vote #4:

Increasingly higher energy prices have a disproportionate affect on low-income families, small businesses and any operating on set budgets. In anticipation of high winter heating bills, Sen. Sanders (I-VT) introduced S. 3186 to provide \$2.5 billion in emergency spending for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). These funds would have simultaneously helped alleviate high-energy costs while providing resources to insulate and weatherize homes to reduce energy consumption moving forward. On July 26, the Senate rejected this motion by a vote of 50 to 35 (Senate Roll Call vote #187) as a two-thirds majority was required. **YES** was the clean energy vote.

Global Warming

Votes #5 & #6:

Global warming is causing some of the greatest challenges ever faced by humankind, threatening our environment, our health, our economy and our national security. Our society's addiction to fossil fuels has resulted in increasing levels global warming pollution for the planet, greater energy insecurity for our nation and higher energy costs for our citizens and energy consumers. In June, the Senate considered S. 3036, the Climate Security Act, introduced by Sens. Lieberman (I-CT) and Warner (R-VA), and the accompanying manager's amdt. [Boxer] S. 4825. Although this legislation would have been a first step in reducing global warming pollution in the United States [17-19% below 2005 levels by 2020 and 57-63% below 2005 levels by 2050] while diversifying America's energy sources, it would have fallen short of reductions scientists say are necessary (25-40% below 1990 levels by 2020) to avert the worst impacts of global warming that include increasing hurricane intensity, forest fire frequency, storms and sea level rise.

After the legislation was offered on June 2, the Senate agreed to a Motion to Proceed for a debate by a vote of 74 to 14 (Senate Roll Call vote #141). **YES** was the pro-global warming action vote. However, and despite bi-partisan support from the original co-sponsors, the Senate failed to gain enough support to pass the measure and rejected the bill on June 6 by a vote of 48 to 36 (Senate Roll Call vote #145). **YES** was the pro-global warming action vote. *[Note: Six senators not present for this vote issued statements of support for this legislation, bringing the unofficial total of senators supporting a comprehensive climate policy to 54.]*

High Carbon Fuels

Vote #7:

While the Senate was considering the National Flood Insurance and Modernization Act (S.2284) in the spring, Sen. McConnell (R-KY) introduced an amendment (S. Amdt. 4720) that would have encouraged further development of a range of high-carbon energy options: opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge's coastal plain to oil drilling, permitting oil and gas development along the Outer Continental Shelf, encouraging coal-to-liquid technologies and facilitating oil shale mining in public lands in the Western US. On May 13, the Senate rejected the amendment by a vote of 42 to 56 (Senate Roll Call Vote #123). **NO** was the clean energy vote.

Vote #8:

Since 1981, a federal moratorium has protected our offshore coastal waters from environmentally destructive drilling. However, during Senate debate on the 2009 fiscal year budget, Sen. Vitter (R-LA) introduced a Motion to Instruct Conferees (S. Con. Res. 70) that sought to expand drilling in offshore coastal waters by delegating the decision to governors and state legislatures. On May 24, the Senate rejected the motion by a vote of 44 to 51 (Senate Roll Call Vote #134). **NO** was the clean energy vote.

Florida Congressional Delegation – House

Dis- trict		House Member	Vote #1: Tax Credits for Clean Renewable Energy (1)	Vote #2 Tax Credits for Clean Renewable Energy (2)	Vote #3 Energy Efficiency: Buildings	Vote #4 Energy Efficiency: RES	Vote #5: High Carbon Fuels: ANWR drilling	Vote #6: High Carbon Fuels: repeal of Sec 526	Vote #7: High Carbon Fuels: offshore drilling	7 key votes in 2008
FL01	R	Miller	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0%
FL02	D	Boyd	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
FL03	D	Brown	✓	no vote	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	86%
FL04	R	Crenshaw	x	no vote	x	x	no vote	x	x	0%
FL05	R	Brown- Waite	no vote	✓	x	x	x	x	no vote	14%
FL06	R	Stearns	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0%
FL07	R	Mica	no vote	x	x	x	x	x	x	0%
FL08	R	Keller	no vote	x	x	x	x	x	x	0%
FL09	R	Bilirakis	x	x	x	✓	✓	x	x	28%
FL10	R	Young	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0%
FL11	D	Castor	✓	no vote	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	86%
FL12	R	Putnam	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0%
FL13	R	Buchanan	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	x	✓	71%
FL14	R	Mack	x	x	x	x	no vote	x	x	0%
FL15	R	Weldon	x	x	✓	x	x	x	x	14%
FL16	D	Mahoney	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
FL17	D	Meek	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
FL18	R	Ros- Lehtinen	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	86%
FL19	D	Wexler	✓	no vote	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	86%
FL20	D	Wasserman -Schultz	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
FL21	R	Diaz-Balart	x	✓	x	x	x	x	✓	28%
FL22	D	Klein	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
FL23	D	Hastings	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
FL24	R	Feeney	x	x	no vote	x	x	x	x	0%
FL25	R	Diaz-Balart	no vote	✓	x	x	x	x	✓	28%

Florida Congressional Delegation – Senate

State		Senator	Vote #1: Tax Credits for Clean Renewable Energy (1)	Vote #2: Tax Credits for Clean Renewable Energy (2)	Vote #3: Energy Efficiency investments	Vote #4: Energy Efficiency (LIHEAP and weather- izing	Vote #5: Global Warming (1)	Vote #6: Global Warming (2)	Vote #7: High Carbon Fuels: ANWR drilling	Vote #8: High Carbon Fuels: OCS drilling	8 key votes in 2008
FL	D	Nelson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
FL	R	Martinez	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	50%

Georgia Congressional Delegation

Dis- trict		House Member	Vote #1: Tax Credits for Clean Renewable Energy (1)	Vote #2 Tax Credits for Clean Renewable Energy (2)	Vote #3 Energy Efficiency: Buildings	Vote #4 Energy Efficiency: RES	Vote #5: High Carbon Fuels: ANWR drilling	Vote #6: High Carbon Fuels: repeal of Sec 526	Vote #7: High Carbon Fuels: offshore drilling	7 key votes in 2008
GA01	R	Kingston	x	x	no vote	x	x	x	x	0%
GA02	D	Bishop	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
GA03	R	West- moreland	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0%
GA04	D	Johnson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
GA05	D	Lewis	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
GA06	R	Price	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0%
GA07	R	Linder	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0%
GA08	D	Marshall	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	86%
GA09	R	Deal	x	x	no vote	x	x	x	x	0%
GA10	R	Broun	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0%
GA11	R	Gingrey	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0%
GA12	D	Barrow	x	✓	x	x	✓	✓	✓	57%
GA13	D	Scott	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%

State		Senator	Vote #1: Tax Credits for Clean Renewable Energy (1)	Vote #2 Tax Credits for Clean Renewable Energy (2)	Vote #3 Energy Efficiency investments	Vote #4 Energy Efficiency (LIHEAP and weather- izing	Vote #5: Global Warming (1)	Vote #6: Global Warming (2)	Vote #7: High Carbon Fuels: ANWR drilling	Vote #8: High Carbon Fuels: OCS drilling	8 key votes in 2008
GA	R	Cham- bliss	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	x	12%
GA	R	Isakson	x	x	x	no vote	✓	x	x	x	12%

North Carolina Congressional Delegation

Dis- trict		House Member	Vote #1: Tax Credits for Clean Renewable Energy (1)	Vote #2 Tax Credits for Clean Renewable Energy (2)	Vote #3 Energy Efficiency: Buildings	Vote #4 Energy Efficiency: RES	Vote #5: High Carbon Fuels: ANWR drilling	Vote #6: High Carbon Fuels: repeal of Sec 526	Vote #7: High Carbon Fuels: offshore drilling	7 key votes in 2008
NC01	D	Butterfield	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
NC02	D	Etheridge	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
NC03	R	Jones	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	28%
NC04	D	Price	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
NC05	R	Foxx	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	0%
NC06	R	Coble	✗	no vote	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	0%
NC07	D	McIntyre	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	86%
NC08	R	Hayes	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	43%
NC09	R	Myrick	✗	✗	✗	✗	no vote	✗	✗	0%
NC10	R	McHenry	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	0%
NC11	D	Shuler	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
NC12	D	Watt	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
NC13	D	Miller	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%

State		Senator	Vote #1: Tax Credits for Clean Renewable Energy (1)	Vote #2 Tax Credits for Clean Renewable Energy (2)	Vote #3 Energy Efficiency investments	Vote #4 Energy Efficiency (LIHEAP and weather- izing)	Vote #5: Global Warming (1)	Vote #6: Global Warming (2)	Vote #7: High Carbon Fuels: ANWR drilling	Vote #8: High Carbon Fuels: OCS drilling	8 key votes in 2008
NC	R	Dole	✓	✓	✓	no vote	✓	✓	✓	✓	87%
NC	R	Burr	✗	✗	✗	no vote	no vote	✗	✗	✗	0%

South Carolina Congressional Delegation

Dis- trict		House Member	Vote #1: Tax Credits for Clean Renewable Energy (1)	Vote #2 Tax Credits for Clean Renewable Energy (2)	Vote #3 Energy Efficiency: Buildings	Vote #4 Energy Efficiency: RES	Vote #5: High Carbon Fuels: ANWR drilling	Vote #6: High Carbon Fuels: repeal of Sec 526	Vote #7: High Carbon Fuels: offshore drilling	7 key votes in 2008
SC01	R	Brown	x	x	no vote	x	x	x	x	0%
SC02	R	Wilson	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0%
SC03	R	Barrett	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0%
SC04	R	Inglis	x	x	✓	x	✓	x	x	28%
SC05	D	Spratt	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
SC06	D	Clyburn	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%

State		Senator	Vote #1: Tax Credits for Clean Renewable Energy (1)	Vote #2 Tax Credits for Clean Renewable Energy (2)	Vote #3 Energy Efficiency investments	Vote #4 Energy Efficiency (LIHEAP and weather- izing	Vote #5: Global Warming (1)	Vote #6: Global Warming (2)	Vote #7: High Carbon Fuels: ANWR drilling	Vote #8: High Carbon Fuels: OCS drilling	8 key votes in 2008
SC	R	Graham	x	x	no vote	no vote	✓	no vote	x	x	12%
SC	R	DeMint	x	x	x	x	x	no vote	x	x	0%

Tennessee Congressional Delegation

Dis- trict		House Member	Vote #1: Tax Credits for Clean Renewable Energy (1)	Vote #2 Tax Credits for Clean Renewable Energy (2)	Vote #3 Energy Efficiency: Buildings	Vote #4 Energy Efficiency: RES	Vote #5: High Carbon Fuels: ANWR drilling	Vote #6: High Carbon Fuels: repeal of Sec 526	Vote #7: High Carbon Fuels: offshore drilling	7 key votes in 2008
TN01	R	D. Davis	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0%
TN02	R	Duncan	x	✓	x	x	x	x	x	14%
TN03	R	Wamp	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	14%
TN04	D	L. Davis	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
TN05	D	Cooper	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
TN06	D	Gordon	✓	✓	✓	✓	no vote	✓	✓	86%
TN07	R	Blackburn	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0%
TN08	D	Tanner	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	86%
TN09	D	Cohen	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%

State		Senator	Vote #1: Tax Credits for Clean Renewable Energy (1)	Vote #2 Tax Credits for Clean Renewable Energy (2)	Vote #3 Energy Efficiency investments	Vote #4 Energy Efficiency (LIHEAP and weather- izing	Vote #5: Global Warming (1)	Vote #6: Global Warming (2)	Vote #7: High Carbon Fuels: ANWR drilling	Vote #8: High Carbon Fuels: OCS drilling	8 key votes in 2008
TN	R	Alex- ander	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	no vote	12%
TN	R	Corker	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	no vote	12%